

We may not get everything we wanted in this package, but we must take the power back from Big Pharma. Big Pharma has had way too much power over this town for way too long. This is our opportunity to demonstrate to our constituents that we work for them, not for Big Pharma. We cannot return to our districts without delivering on our promise to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to do what is right and fight for these critical provisions in the Build Back Better Act.

HURLEY FLOOD RESCUE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I offer these remarks today to honor the bravery and selfless service of the law enforcement officers and other first responders that worked to ensure the safety of the residents of Buchanan County during the horrendous flooding caused by heavy rainfall in the small town of Hurley, Virginia, on August 30, 2021.

Their efforts saved lives and were core to rescue and recovery following the destructive power of the flood. Particularly, I honor Buchanan County Sheriff John McClanahan, Deputy Raymond Webb, Deputy Lieutenant Brandon Hall, Deputy Lieutenant Ryan Mitchell, Deputy Billy Owens, Deputy Aaron Skeens, Deputy Andy Webb, Deputy John Hagy III, and Deputy Tasha Meadows.

The excessive rainfall resulted in blocked roadways, numerous landslides, and severe flooding in the town of Hurley. There were school closures from the storm as well. All of this caused devastating damage and jeopardized the safety of many.

In the face of danger, these officers and first responders of Buchanan County displayed great heroism by rescuing a number of citizens from harm's way. The storm caused a level of flooding in Hurley which has not been seen for nearly 20 years and matched any level of devastation from a natural disaster that I have seen in the Ninth Congressional District of Virginia.

Hundreds of residents had to evacuate their homes. As many as a thousand were left without power and drinking water, and I saw roughly 20 homes that had been uprooted from their foundations. But the terrible flood was also an occasion of heroism and helping others. Besides the deputies and the sheriff, around 500 volunteers lent their time to rescue and cleanup efforts.

Mr. Speaker, let me highlight one remarkable rescue from the flooding on Monday, August 30, 2021, involving a woman trapped in her home.

The woman's mobile home had been swept off its foundation, carried downstream, and when it crashed into a railroad trestle, the home, with the woman

inside of it, was caught between the raging water and the train trestle. The home would have continued further downstream if it had not been trapped at the trestle. And as officers quickly arrived on the scene, her home was already little more than rubble.

As the water thundered by and the rain continued to pour down, the trailer, surrounded by water, was precariously positioned and appeared ready to collapse completely at any moment. Amid this peril, the officers showed no regard for their own safety as they came to the rescue.

Deputy Raymond Webb was first to arrive on the scene. He crossed the railroad tracks, climbed over to where the collapsed home remained, with water raging around, and was able to cut a hole in the roof of what was left of the house.

Shortly after, Sheriff John McClanahan and Deputies Skeens, Meadows, Hall, Mitchell, Owens, Webb, and Hagy arrived at the scene to assist with the rescue. Deputy Raymond Webb tied a rope around the woman, while the rest of the officers and personnel retrieved her and pulled her out of the trailer and up to safety. Thanks to the rapid response of these officers from the Buchanan County Sheriff's Office, she was rescued from the battered trailer.

Mr. Speaker, this storm was devastating for the town of Hurley. In a time when the community was in great need, these officers courageously came together to do their utmost to ensure the safety and security of those who were in harm's way.

I offer my gratitude to the officers from the Buchanan County Sheriff's Office, as well as all the community leaders and first responders that played a hand in keeping Hurley safe on that day and the days that followed.

TIPS FOR PREVENTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise, many of us being survivors of sexual harassment and violence, because we are tired of victim blaming. We are tired of being told that if we had just done this or done that it wouldn't have happened to us. We are tired of being told to feel guilty about what we wore or what we said. We are tired of our truth being dismissed.

Today, I rise to change the narrative and give some tips instead for how to prevent sexual violence. So let's talk about it.

If you are thinking about putting drugs in someone's drink, don't.

If you can't keep yourself from committing sexual assault, always have a trusted friend by your side to stop you from committing sexual assault.

If you encounter someone who is drunk, unconscious or asleep, do not commit sexual assault against that person.

If you see someone walking by themselves, just leave them alone.

If you are worried about committing sexual assault, make sure you wear something that will remind you not to, like a sign or a sticker.

If you think you might commit sexual assault, always carry a whistle. When you find yourself about to commit sexual assault, blow the whistle until someone else stops you.

To every survivor of sexual violence, know that no matter how hard the media or your peers or your family or others try to make you feel that what happened to you was your fault, it was not.

Hear me when I say this: It was not your fault.

Know that your congresswoman is working every day to build a world where sexual violence no longer exists, a world where survivors are protected, where we have access to the care that we need, which includes abortion care, a world where the instinct to blame the survivors is replaced with one to provide healing and care.

Know that in this moment that I love you and that there are others who love you and want to make sure you are healthy, and you are protected. We see you. We hear you. We love you.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the advocates for giving us all these great tips.

PROTECT COMMUNITIES FROM A POROUS BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, before my commentary on this disastrous border self-inflicted by this administration, I want to speak on behalf of my fellow Texans.

I think I can say this with confidence: They welcome the immigrant, the God-fearing, freedom-loving immigrant that wants to make this country their home, pledge allegiance to our flag, embrace our ideals and improve even our way of life.

Mr. Speaker, we welcome the immigrant, but only if they respect our laws, our sovereignty, and the safety of our fellow Americans.

Since January, this administration has created an unprecedented and unmitigated crisis at our southern border. They have repealed every effective measure that was in place to stop the flow of illegal Americans and to secure the border. They have willfully disregarded the Constitution and its mandate on the people's government to provide for the common defense.

Our President has failed to faithfully uphold the law, to fulfill the sacred duty to enforce the laws of the land. They have completely ceded control of our border and the sovereignty of this great country to paramilitary drug cartels. They have enriched, empowered, these narco terrorists at the expense of the vulnerable migrants who take this dangerous trek and, most importantly, at the expense of the American people, our families, our children.